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Item 1 of the provisional agenda*
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Election of a member to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

1. At its 10th plenary meeting, on 25 April 2007, the Economic and Social Council, inter alia, elected eight members to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2008 (see Council decision 2007/201 B).

2. In a letter dated 31 March 2008, the Secretariat informed Governments that one elected member of the Permanent Forum, Ms. Xiaomei Qin (China), would vacate her seat on 31 December 2008 and requested States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Asian States to present their nominations by 2 May 2008 to fill the seat.

3. Accordingly, the Secretariat has received nominations from the Governments of Fiji and the Philippines to fill that seat on the Permanent Forum. The term of office would begin on 1 January 2009 and expire on 31 December 2010.

4. Biographical information on the candidates is set out in the annex to the present note.

* E/2008/100.

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Annex

Biographical information on candidates for election to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Eugenio A. Insigne (Philippines)

Chairman, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples of the Philippines

Education and academic qualifications

2002-2003	Master of Theology, Maryhill School of Theology, Philippines
1992-1993	Master in National Security Administration, National Defence College of the Philippines
1976	Bachelor of Law, San Beda College, Philippines
	Bachelor of Science in Commerce, St. Louis University, Baguio City, Philippines

Work experience

Present	Chairman, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, Philippines
1999-2004	City Prosecutor, Valenzuela City, Philippines
	Professor of Criminal Law, Manuel L. Quezon University, College of Law, Philippines

Other relevant experience

Awards:

Most Outstanding Alumnus for 2007

Outstanding Indigenous Leader Awardee, 1993

Most Outstanding Prosecutor of the City of Manila 1995-1996

Attended the following meetings:

2007	Austronesian Forum, Taipei and Taitung, Taiwan, Province of China
2007	Fifteenth Anniversary Conference of the Canadian Aboriginal Minerals Association, Vancouver, Canada
2005	International workshop on the draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Mexico
2005	National Conference on Anti-Corruption
2002	International Indigenous Forum, Vancouver, Canada
1998	Second National Tribal Congress, Quezon City, Philippines
1995	Ancestral Domain and Development Plan Conference, Quezon City, Philippines

1995 Global Yes Conference, Quezon City, Philippines

1994 First National Tribal Congress, Quezon City, Philippines

United Nations languages spoken: English

Berenado Vunibobo (Fiji)

Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations

Education and academic qualifications

Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Diploma in Horticulture, Diploma in Tropical Agriculture

Queensland University

Queensland Agricultural College

Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture (University College of the West Indies)

Work experience

May 2008 to present	Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations
1999-2008	Appointed Senator
	Appointed to the Constitution Review Commission
	Appointed as Special Envoy to selected Member States (Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific Group, Tonga, Guyana, Samoa, Cook Islands, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Nigeria, Senegal, Gabon, South Africa, Kenya, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago)
1997-1999	Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade
1996-1997	Minister for Finance and Economic Development
1994	Minister for Home Affairs and Immigration
	Minister for Labour and Industrial Relations
	Minister for Youth, Sports and Employment Opportunities
1992-1994	Chairman, Board of Directors, Fiji Post and Telecommunications Ltd
	Chairman, Defence Review Committee
1988-1992	Minister for Trade and Commerce

Other relevant experience

1999-Present

Member, Committee to Review Fijian Administration

Chairman, Fijian Education Advisory Group

Board Member, Natadola Land Holdings Ltd.

Asia Pacific Resort International Ltd.

Member, Papal Mission led by Cardinal Josef Tomko

Chairman, Committee for the Refurbishment of the Cathedral

Chairman, Organizing Committee of the Celebration of the One-hundred-fiftieth Anniversary of the Catholic Evangelization of Fiji

1994

Special Envoy of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II

United Nations languages spoken: English